

# *Laos and Cuba signed agreements during the prime minister's visit*

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Vientiane, Oct 3 (RHC) The governments of Cuba and Laos signed four agreements in the context of the official visit of Prime Minister Manuel Marrero, who will carry out an extensive work agenda today.

At the end of the official talks, held the day before, agreements were signed in the areas of higher education, agriculture, and health, Marrero and his Laotian counterpart, Phankham Viphavanc, agreed that the presence of the Cuban head of government marks a new milestone and boosts bilateral relations.

Upon his arrival in Vientiane, the also member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba was received by the Minister of Education and Sports, Simma Laoong.

Cuban Prime Minister will carry out an intense work program during his visit. According to the local Foreign Ministry, his presence will strengthen and expand the friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

The Cuban head of government will pay a visit to the monument to the unknown soldier, after which he and his delegation will meet with the head of the Lao National Assembly (Parliament), Saysomphone Phomvihane, and with the secretary general of the People's Revolutionary Party (PPRL) and president of the country, Thongloun Sisoulith.

They will then visit an agricultural enterprise, a development zone, and the Cuba-Laos Friendship School, where a bust was erected in memory of National Hero José Martí.

Early last September, Marrero's visit was preceded by that of Cuba's First Deputy Foreign Minister Gerardo Peñalver, which corroborated the deep roots that sustain today the more than 50 years of bilateral collaboration.

Last June, the top leaders of the PCC, Miguel Diaz-Canel, and the People's Revolutionary Party, Thongloun Sisoulith, held a videoconference in which they highlighted the increasingly consistent relations of friendship and solidarity between the two countries.

We attach high priority and importance to the ties of friendship and cooperation that unite the peoples, parties, and governments of Cuba and Laos, emphasized Díaz-Canel, who extended a fraternal greeting from Army General Raúl Castro.

During the dialogue, the Cuban president made some proposals to boost bilateral economic ties and expand cooperation in the areas of health, education, sports, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, and agriculture.

Díaz-Canel and Sisoulith shared mutual invitations to visit each country, as a sign of the consistent and historic ties of friendship and collaboration existing between both nations. (Source: PL)

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